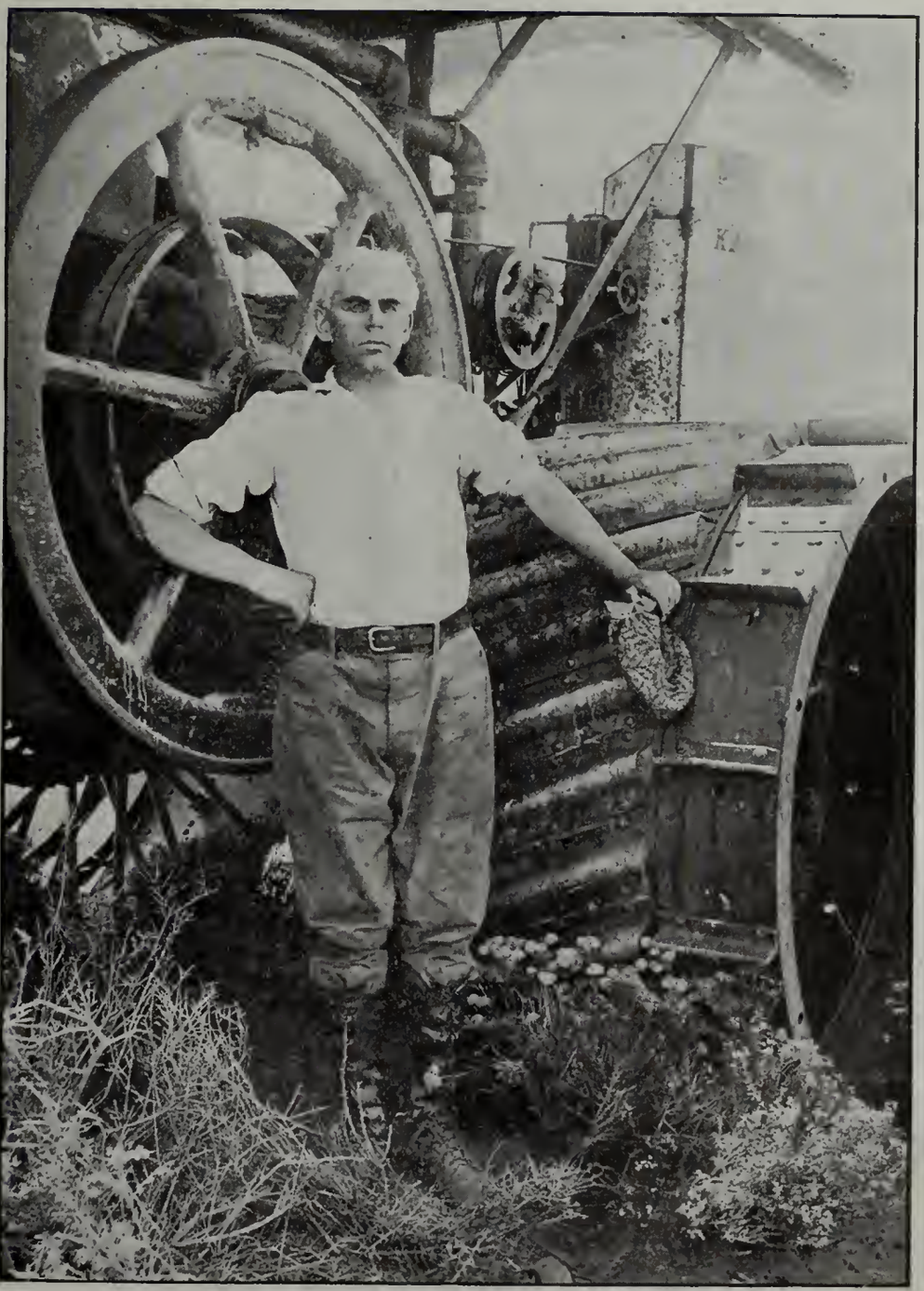
July, 1914 Vol. 2, No. 3 Ten cents

The Western Comrade



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Splendid Articles by
Special Contributors

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POETRY
FICTION
PROPAGANDA

Scene in Eagleson's Union Factory. Light, Airy, Sanitary.

Specialties: Shirts, Pajamas, Underwear, Collars, Neckwear.

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Choose Your Summer Suit Where Prices and Quality Are Right—Where Styles Are Correct

During July it behooves the careful, conscientious buyer to choose his new suit with greater care than at most times of the year. If you want the most for your money you will come up to Eagleson's, between First and Second streets, where our inexpensive location and small running expenses enable us to make you an actual cash saving on your suits, hats and furnishings. Not only during July, but at the beginning, middle and end of the season.

Because this is one of the oldest and largest exclusive men's stores in California we are showing larger selections in the right sort of guaranteed summer fabrics, colors and models than any other men's store on the coast. Every garment is exactly as it is represented.

Special values in high grade all wool suits at **$13.00, $20.00, $25.00.**

Your comparison is cordially invited. Under no obligation to buy.

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Sold direct from factory to wearer. Being manufacturers enables us to eliminate the retail and jobbers' profit and give you regular
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All makes, styles and colors. Over 200 different kinds to select from. Prices from 50c to $3.00 per garment. Much better quality than can be had at these prices elsewhere.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF EXTRA TROUSERS, OVERALLS, CORDUROY PANTS, GLOVES, SUSPENDERS, NECKWEAR, HANDKERCHIEFS, SUIT CASES, TRAVELING BAGS AND TRUNKS.

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Men's 10-inch boots.	$6.00
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The famous Clifford Elkskin Shoes are lightest and easiest for solid comfort and will outwear three pairs of ordinary shoes.

We cover all lines from ladies,' men's and children's button or lace in light handsome patterns to the high boots for mountain, hunting, ranching or desert wear. Almost indestructible.

Send in your orders by mail. Take measurement according to instructions. Out of town shoes made immediately on receipt of order. Send P. O. order and state whether we shall forward by mail or express.

Address all communications to Shoe Department.

Place stocking foot on paper, drawing pencil around as per above illustration. Pass tape around at lines without drawing tight. Give size usually worn.

Mescal Water and Land Company

Higgins Building Los Angeles, Cal.

The Western Comrade

THIS Magazine is devoted to the interests of the Working Class of the World. It is the aim of the publishers to maintain the high standard that the former management established, and to increase its efficiency as a weapon against oppression and exploitation of the workers.

In this effort we shall strive to keep uppermost in the minds of our readers the necessity of taking advantage of every opportunity offered to push forward the cause of Socialism by the use of co-operative methods, political action and direct action by use of strikes and whatever legal methods the workers may adopt to further their interests.

In this endeavor we ask the loyal support of the Comrades of America.

THE PUBLISHERS.

A Monarch of the Land

Tractors are invaluable in clearing lands on the Llano del Rio. This great machine, with a small crew, clears from ten to twenty acres a day. It uproots ordinary chaparral with greatest ease, and even tears down the great Joshua trees, the giant Yuccas, as if they were weeds.

Co-operation vs. Theory

By JOB HARRIMAN

THE men and women who are at the Rancho Llano del Rio and those in the small office force are working with enthusiasm and a singleness of purpose that is most encouraging. The only misgivings about the success of this great undertaking are expressed by those who have not shown any inclination to enter the colony. They are strong on the theory of co-operation but little inclined to make an attempt at a practical application or to take any action except to discourage others.

These few comrades have taken considerable trouble to declare that the colony has no connection with the Socialist Party. This action seems unnecessary and the fears of the comrades are unfounded. This enterprise is incorporated under the laws of the State of California. This gives us tried and established rules for operation. Every transaction is carried out in the regular, legal manner. No one has ever represented, or ever will represent, that any understanding exists between this enterprise and the Socialist Party. That party is not now, and never will become, responsible directly or indirectly for this enterprise.

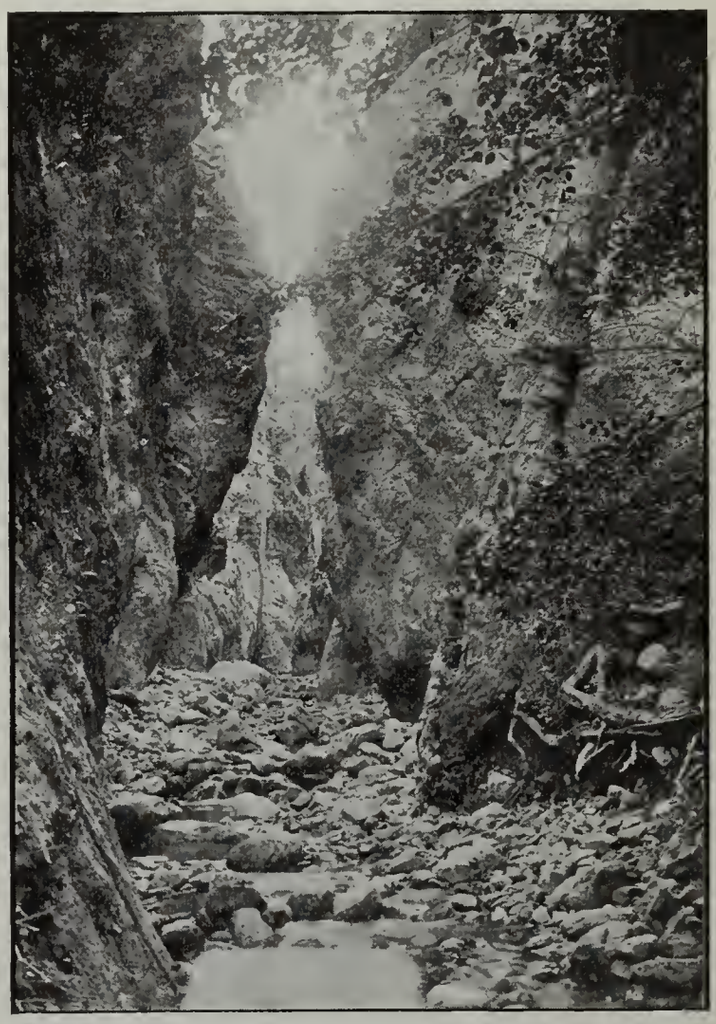
But will Llano del Rio succeed? Well, that depends upon aggressive action. Our shoulders must press the collar, we must have confidence in our ability to do practical things. Then we must buckle down and do them.

Since starting this enterprise I have met with a most remarkable fact. That fact was a state of mind. A state of mind for which there was no foundation and yet unshakable. It developed under most remarkable conditions. We were in need of a few men to make hay. A number had bought in and others were buying but not in quite sufficient numbers to save our hay as fast as it ripened. We concluded to open the doors and let five or six men work out all the stock without any initial payment.

A dozen men were called in. The plan was laid before them. They hesitated. I asked them how old they were. Their ages ranged from 25 to 40 years. "How much money have you?" "None," was the sad refrain. "How much property?" "None," from all but three. "What have you to lose?" "Well, it looks too good. There must be some graft in it." And all but one filed out, back to the wallow, solemn as any owl that ever perched on post. The office force was first amazed, then fairly exploded with side-splitting laughter.

Since that time there have been scores of volunteers who have wanted to go into the colony and work out their shares, but members have been joining in sufficient numbers, on the regular basis, so that the original plan has been held.

There is a principality at Llano del Rio waiting for the workers to take it. No such opportunity will ever come again to our people in the southwest. Though we were disappointed by these men we have been equally surprised and encouraged by the action of others. They have read the statements in The Western Comrade, and have walked up like men, bought their stock, went to the property, rolled up their sleeves and gone to work. This is the stuff that brings success.



The Narrows, looking south. This scene is in the high mountains in the upper ranches tributary to the Big Rock.

A professor digging in the ruins of ancient Memphis, in Egypt, picked up a dust-covered parchment. He looked at it and translated: "Even as ye kill so shall ye pay for the crime with your life."

"Strange!" he muttered, "they did that two thousand years ago and we are still doing it today."

From Labor Bank to Co-operative Commonwealth

Fourth Article—By EDGCUMB PINCHON

N MY last article on the subject of the Labor Bank I described the five classes of investment which such a bank would find itself compelled to adopt:

1. Commercial loans to merchants and manufacturers fair to Labor.
2. Loans to contractors fair to Labor.
3. Short-term small loans to members of Organized Labor.
4. Loans to small farmers for productive purposes other than the hiring of labor.
5. The purchase of entire or majority issues of municipal bonds.

But Labor's business cannot stop here. The same forces of economic necessity which brought it into being, and marked out for it these minor channels of action, will compel it to go one step further; and that step, as I have said, will be Labor's first step upon the path which leads directly and inevitably into the Co-operative Commonwealth. **Organized Labor backed by its own Organized Dollars will be compelled to go into the business of production and distribution for itself.**

A contractor, for instance, unable to obtain credit at the embarrassed capitalist banks, or tempted by, perhaps, a lower rate of interest, or really desirous of being "fair" to Labor, and able to operate in freedom from the pressure of the "Big Business" banks, applies to the Labor Bank for the money to finance the erection of, e. g., a skyscraper. He agrees to completely unionize the job, and is accordingly accommodated with the necessary credit. He completes the contract, pays the men, settles his credit with interest—and takes the profit. Here Organized Labor has supplied both the **labor** and the **capital** in order that a third private party may reap a large profit. **How long will Organized Labor do this sort of thing before it recognizes that there is no reason in the world why it should not take such contracts itself?**

Similarly in the case of a manufacturer obtaining credit at the Labor Bank and accordingly operating under the "closed shop" principle; his **fixed** capital, i. e., his plant, is private, but the **operating** capital and the **labor**—without which his fixed capital is of no use—both belong to Organized Labor. But the manufacturer—**not Organized Labor**—takes the profits. **How long will Organized Labor permit the profits derived from the use of its own labor and capital to go into the hands of a third party—an unnecessary middle man—before it recognizes that it is fully able to own and operate the business for itself and reap the profits thereof? In short, the Labor Bank will not long have been established before the urge of an iron necessity will force Organized Labor into all departments of industry as a producer on its own account.**

A bank, of course, cannot directly own and operate industries. It is not intended for that purpose. Capitalism has evolved a special institution for this work—the funding company. It is the business of a funding company to establish companies subsidiary to itself in the various branches of industry, to finance them, control them, and concentrate their profits in its own reserve for the expansion of existing business or the establishment of new enterprises. Indeed, a chain of banks centrally owned and controlled, financing a chain of funding companies which in turn own and control chains of subsidiary companies operating in all departments of industry, and returning their profits to the funding companies for the expansion of existing business or the launching of new enterprises—is the ultimate mechanism of centralized capitalism, as exemplified, e. g., in Standard Oil. As a weapon of class oppression, of course, this mechanism is unparalleled in history. **As a mechanism for the socialization of production it is practically perfect.** And the same necessity which will force Organized Labor into the business of production will likewise force it to adapt this mechanism to its own use—a mechanism perfected to the hand of Labor by centralized capitalism itself. Here, it is interesting to note, is a brilliant illustration of an exploiting class forging the weapon of its own destruction. Just in fact as Labor already has been forced to copy its exploiters and establish its own bank, so it will be forced again to copy its exploiters and establish its own Funding Company and subsidiary companies for the operation of its own industries. Simply it has no alternative.

To attempt to define the exact conception and method of operation of the Labor Funding Company and its subsidiary companies may seem not a little like assuming the mantle of a prophet. But really the matter is very simple and requires only ordinary common sense.

In the first case "He who lives in Rome must live as do the Romans" is a maxim peculiarly applicable to questions of practical economics. In so far as the Labor Funding Company and its subsidiary companies will be profit-making institutions operating **within** the capitalist system, they will be compelled strictly to conform on their **technical** side to the methods of capitalism. They will be, in fact, strictly business institutions, and will be compelled to conduct themselves as

such. But in so far as these institutions will be owned and operated by Organized Labor in the interests of the whole of Organized Labor, they will have a special character, and will conform strictly, on what might be called their **social** side, to the traditions of Organized Labor. Bearing these simple necessities in mind, and also the facts that the directors of the Funding Company, like the directors of the Labor Bank, can have

Edgcumb Pinchon

but two possible guides for all their actions: the desire to make these institutions profitable as such, and the desire to make them a means of strengthening Organized Labor, the task of forecasting them in a certain detail becomes practically mechanical.

The Labor Funding Company, like the Labor Bank and Insurance Company, can be organized effectively only as a corporation owned and controlled by the whole of Organized Labor; and thus, also like these institutions, it necessarily will be directed by officers democratically elected by the rank and file of Organized Labor. Owing to its special character its capitalization, of course, will be purely formal; and it will operate under a practically unlimited charter. For its **expert technical** help it will have the whole field of modern trained business experts to choose from, and it can well afford to pay salaries commensurate with the highest grade of service. To obtain the necessary finances for its operations it will follow, of course, the usual practice of issuing interest-bearing bonds, secured, in this case, on the existing properties of Organized Labor. But to prevent these bonds from falling into capitalist hands they clearly will have to be made non-transferable and issuable only to the Labor Bank and Insurance Company, and, under certain restrictions, to individual members of Organized Labor. **Here then is the main and infinitely most important investment of the Labor Bank and Insurance Company.**

Once equipped and launched on its way, the Labor Company, like any other funding company, will proceed from time to time as opportunity offers to organize, finance and control subsidiary companies in the various departments of industry. These subsidiary companies will be Organic Co-operative Industries, i. e., on their **technical** side they will be exactly like any capitalist concern, but on the **social** side they will have the special characteristics of Labor. Thus they will be directed, of course, by officers, democratically elected by the workers in each particular shop; they will be supervised and controlled by the Funding Company; they will be managed in all **technical** matters by an expert hired for the purpose at the market salary; they will pay their employes the full market wage for an eight-hour day and five and one-half day week; they will maintain the market price of their products, **and their profits will accrue, partly to their own reserve for the expansion of existing business, and partly to the Funding Company for the launching of new co-operative industries.**

Let not the hasty reader shout "Utopian!" Manifestly this is the line to which Labor's industries will be compelled to hew, not as a matter of theory or artificial arrangement, but by the ever present urge of practical business necessities. And by that same beneficient urge of practical business necessities the Labor industries will be withheld from the suicidal practices usually associated with the so-called co-operative "schemes" of today; namely, cutting prices, rebating to consumers and sharing profits among the workers. Labor scarcely will need to make the experiment in order to learn that these practices do not jibe with capitalist business methods, that they lead directly to the rocks of economic disaster, and at best to the stunting of the new industrial system. Organized Labor will need vast accumulations of capital if it is successfully to fight its business battles with the capitalist system; and it cannot accumulate this capital in competition with the other great corporations if it does not conform closely to the rules of the capitalist game. In short, the Labor Funding Company and its subsidiary companies will be strictly **business institutions**, organized and conducted exactly like capitalist industries. Their right to the title of "co-operative" lies solely in the fact that they will be owned, not by private employer, but by Organized Labor as a whole, and that their profits will go, not into the pockets of stockholders, nor at the other extreme into the pockets of a few for-

tunate employes, but to Organized Labor as represented in the Funding Company for the launching of fresh enterprises. **Only by amassing an ever increasing capital for the ever increasing expansion of its existing industries, and the ever increasing establishment of new industries, can Labor hope finally to emancipate itself completely from capitalist conditions.**

The establishment of Labor's own co-operative industries, manifestly, will provide a new and powerful inducement to the unorganized workers to enter the unions. Not the dullest witted and most anti-social worker will long remain outside of an organization which offers him (1) the protection and care of the union, (2) the friendly personal and building loan in time of need, (3) the low rate of insurance, (4) greatly extended opportunities of employment in the capitalist industries, and municipal services influenced by the Labor Bank, (5) and last, and most attractive of all, an opportunity of obtaining secure employment, under democratic management, at fair wages and short hours, in the fellowship of Labor's own co-operative industries. With the development of these institutions Organized Labor will increase in numerical strength from month to month not, as now, by tens and hundreds but by tens and hundreds of thousands, until, all the really capable and valuable element of the working class is within its ranks.

What does this mean? It means that beginning with the establishment of the Labor Bank the savings of 3,000,000 workers amounting to $500,000,000, and thus $5,000,000,000 of credit, will be withdrawn from the arteries of capitalist business and placed in the complete control of Organized Labor. It means that beginning with the establishment of the Labor Insurance Company about a billion dollars more will be eliminated from capitalist control and placed in the hands of Labor. It means that with the establishment of the Labor co-operative industries at least three million consumers and most probably twice that number—not to mention the families which these figures represent—will patronize the products of the Labor industries and boycott the competing capitalist products. And it means that this process once begun will continue with an ever increasing speed. It means, in short, that as the business of Organized Labor increases, the business of the capitalist class correspondingly must decrease. Swiftly, and ever more swiftly, deprived, first of its operating capital, and thus restricted in credit; and then deprived of its working-class consumers in all branches of industry entered by the co-operative industries, and thus deprived of a market; deprived of their best workmen and thus of their Unpaid Wages which is the source of fixed capital—the capitalist system, and with it, the capitalist class must wither and decay, until the last remnant of it is absorbed into the business of Organized Labor. **Nor will Labor need to capture more than a respectable fraction of industry before it becomes complete master of the situation. Capitalist business depends entirely on public confidence. Let that confidence be soundly shaken, so that stocks and bonds become valueless and people refuse to invest, and the remaining major fraction of capitalist business will tumble overnight pell-mell into chaos there to be reorganized under the control of Organized Labor.**

And while this process of reconstruction is going forward the workers will begin to learn the necessity of using the ballot to protect **their direct business interests.** Organized Labor will learn to vote, as does "Oil," as does "Wool," as does "Cotton," as does "Beef" for the protection and enhancement of its **corporate interests.** And in so doing, whether in a distinct Labor party or in the existing Socialist party, it will bring a new tremendous political power into the arena. The one great enemy of Organized Labor in its new activities will be the Giant Trusts, and Organized Labor will speedily learn that its **business life** will depend upon its ability to force these Giant Trusts out of the road and into the hands of the government. Thus will come a tremendous movement on the part of the larger Organized Labor of the future toward the nationalization of the great Trusts and the municipalization of public utilities in support of the existing movements in that direction maintained by the Socialist and the Progressives. And finally this political awakening of the workers in defense of their **business interests** will carry them forward to the capture of the city, state and national governments themselves.

Thus, and at no distant date, and almost mechanically as it were, will the workers be ushered triumphantly into the Co-operative Commonwealth in which will be neither exploiter nor slave, but the organized workers will own and control all industry in the interests of the organized workers. In that day profit and interest will cease to serve any further function in the productive process and will automatically disappear; and Labor at last will be free to enjoy the full reward of toil both socially and individually—not less than one-fifth of that reward as today.

In conclusion is quoted the most important public utterance of modern times—an utterance destined to become historic in the annals of the Industrial Revolution. Said William Dobson, the brilliant Secretary of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union at the convention previously mentioned:

"The chartering of a banking institution by Organized Labor and its friends is now being considered in the city of Indianapolis, and my earnest prayer is that all of us may soon see the day when Labor will realize the power for good that will follow the bringing into life of a financial institution controlled solely and absolutely by the Organized Labor of the American Continent."

Water and the Plains

BY
Franklin Davenport Howell

(No class of men shows more careful and conscientious discrimination than engineers of established reputation and standing. Conservatism and caution seem to be their watchword. In the following article Mr. Howell, who is the chief engineer for the Llano del Rio enterprise, has boiled down his facts and attempted to strip them of all technicalities. He has based his statements on inside figures and avoided superlatives that might depend on optimism and enthusiasm. Mr. Howell has had a wide experience in some of the greatest engineering and irrigation projects of the United States and Mexico.—Ed.)

LLANO DEL RIO territory lies in the district on the north side of the Sierra Madre Mountains, a part of the Angeles Forest Reserve, technically known as "Township 5 North, Ranges 8, 9 and 10 West, San Bernardino meridian," in Los Angeles county, California.

Beginning at the base of the mountains at 3500 feet above the sea level, it slopes to the north and out into the so-called Mojave desert.

The land available under the watershed of Rock creek (Rio del Llano) and Mescal creek, extends for about fifteen miles east and west and to five or six miles north, with probably a maximum of 47,000 to 50,000 acres therein that can be watered from this watershed when it shall be fully developed.

The soil over this entire area is from the decomposition of the granites, felspars and limes of the mountain range, giving a deep, light soil that never "bakes," containing potash, soda, carbonates of lime and magnesia, sulfides and oxides of iron, etc., in fact all the minerals necessary to sustain plant life, requiring only the oxidizing influence of water and air, obtained by irrigation, plowing and cultivating to render them soluable and easily assimilated by plant growth as food.

The water supply for this territory is dependent on rainfall and, while there are ocasional light rains in the valley, the heavy and dependable rains are confined to the mountain area. It is of frequent occurrence that the valley is bathed in warm sunshine while the mountains are lost to view, almost smothered in rain and snow.

Of these rains part is lost by evaporation, part is absorbed by the mountains and part runs off the sides of the mountains to the creek beds and on out to the valley, where it disappears. That which evaporates is, of course, lost as available water supply. That which is absorbed irrigates and nourishes the heavily-timbered mountain side and part of it reaches the stream beds and makes a summer flow, while the run-off to be of use must be caught and impounded in order to save it for the dry season.

The area of watersheds adjoining these lands is approximately eighty square miles, which, with forty inches of rainfall per annum, should yield about 70,000 acre feet of water that could be used if it could all be saved—enough water, with the character of probable crops, to maintain 40,000 to 50,000 acres of land under cultivation.

Under present conditions, however, the first work to be done is to make use of the minimum flow of water from this watershed by putting it on as much land as it will serve—and this is what is now being done.

Successful colonists and ideal Socialists are the bees. The 200 stands shown here have netted the owner, who worked alone, over $2500 a year. This ranch has been taken over by the Llano del Rio colonists. It is the intention to establish several thousand stands in the apiary department.

The minimum flow of both Mescal and Rock creeks will probably take care of some 8000 to 10,000 acres by the construction of small diverting dams in the foothills, and leading the water therefrom by ditch and pipe lines to the lands being cleared and planted. This will make the beginning and foundation from which to enlarge to the limit of available water.

The next step is to set up rain guages and weirs for the accurate measurement of the actual and available water and the construction of storage reservoirs sufficient to impound the runoff from the mountains during the rainy seasons.

There are four such reservoir sites available with the total capacity of between 30,000 to 40,000 acre feet, and surveys are now in progress to define their actual extent and construction requirements.

Finally in the development and conservation of these waters several water power developments are possible, yielding enough power to light the territory and furnish power for many factories.

It will be readily appreciated that all these things cannot be at once accomplished, and that it will require time before the actual amount of water available can be definitely known, and therefore the total acreage that can be put under cultivation, but enough is known to assure an area that will support a population of 5000 souls or more and have an unusual surplus of product for the open market.

Georgian Philosopy and Economics

By DR. J. E. POTTENGER

SOCIALISTS generally are about as ill-informed on the philosophy and economies of Henry George as the Single Taxers are on the philosophy and economics of Karl Marx. To light the way of Socialists is my purpose.

We should appreciate the serviee of George in his trenchant analysis and successful refutation of the two main tenets of Privilege—the Malthusion Doctrine and the Wage Fund Theory. Little progress could be made in economic thought as long as they influenced the minds of men.

The foundation of George's teachings is the Doctrine of Natural Rights. This doctrine was developed by Quesnay and supported by Turgot in France. It sought freedom of Person, Opinion and Contract or Exchange. Private property in land was the eause of all evil, which was to be abolished by a single tax on land. The theory of Natural Rights is a beautiful product of the human mind, but not in accordance with the conception most of us have regarding social evolution. We hold rights, in so far as we may secure them, to be only relative, varying with time, plaee and with our growing intelligence and humanitarianism. Quesnay, himself, proves our contention—"Natural right is the right which a man has to do the thing fit for his enjoyment." Most will agree that it is a serious question whether a man has a right to do what he thinks is fit for his enjoyment. George recognizes man as a creature of desire, attempting to satisfy the same by labor.

Factors in Production

The three factors in production are land, labor and capital, in order of natural sequence in origin.

"Land necessarily includes not merely the surface of the earth as distinguished from water and air, but the whole natural universe outside of man himself, for it is only by having access to land, from which his very body is drawn, that man can eome in contact with or use nature. The term land, embraces, in short, all natural materials, forees and opportunities, and therefore nothing that is freely supplied by nature can be properly called capital." (Progress and Poverty, page 37.)

"The term labor, in like manner, includes all human exertion, and hence human powers whether natural or acquired can never be elassed as capital." Capital is wealth "which is devoted to the aid of production." The feature of this classification and definition is the attempt at natural order. Much of the foolish criticism of George and his land program is due to a lack of understanding of his meaning of "land." It would have been to Marx's advantage if he had been clearer on this point.

Rent

Rent in the Georgian sense, i. e., economic rent, is that portion of the income derived from land or other natural capabilities by virtue of ownership of the same. It is rent as we know it, less rent on buildings or other improvements on or in the land.

Interest

Dismissing "reward of abstinence" which is usually assigned by standard works as justification for interest, as insufficient, George finds its cause in "Something which, though it generally requires labor to utilize it, is yet distinct and separable from labor—the active power of nature; the principle of growth, of reproduction, which everywhere charaeterizes all the forms of that mysterious thing or eondition we call life." The "aging" of wine is cited among others as an instanee. Socialists often hear the "old wine" and "old fiddle" arguments advaneed as attempts to disprove Marx's Labor Theory of Value. The confusion results from the use of the word value. The one using the argument has in mind use value, while Marx's theory deals with exchange value. But the real argument against the Georgian position in justifying interest, lies in his own definition of land cited above. The "something" as a part of nature, i. e., land, is in this case to be allowed to yield a return for the owner of the articie. In justifying interest, George has not only exempted a portion of land from taxation, but is rewarding privilege with interest. Socialists should understand this inconsistency thoroughly.

In his law of interest George says: "As rent rises, interest will fall as wages fall, or will be determined by the margin of cultivation." This statement is acceptable in a certain sense, though the Georgians use it in an attempt to show identity of interest of the capitalist and wage-worker, as opposed to the interest of the landlord.

Iron Law of Wages

"Where natural opportunities are all monopolized, wages may be foreed by the competition among labor-

ers to the minimum at which laborers will consent to reproduce.'' This is the Marxian position except that Marx attributes the tendency to capitalism as well as to landlordism. The difference is more apparent than real, and is based on the different use of the word land —Marx using it in the limited and George using it in the general sense. Moreover, since many capitalists, probably most, are their own landlords, the separation of landlord and capitalist is not made. It seems to me George has the better of Marx on this point.

George's Historical Method

George's interpretation of history is not so definite and consistent as the economic interpretation of Marx. His method is rather idealistic, and not closely in touch with the experiences of men. Here and there he hints at the pressure of economic interests as determining certain events, but this economic motive is found always on the side of reaction and conservatism, the position of the landlord class. He does not conceive of a counter economic motive, directing the revolt of the submerged and less privileged, as did Marx. It is Truth and Justice that guides the opposition. This seems an absurd position to a social evolutionist.

In attempting to account for the varied civilizations—dead, decaying, arrested and progressive—he finds the Law of Human Progress, Prog. and Pov., page 504: ''Mental power is . . the motor of progress, and men tend to advance in proportion to the mental power expended in progression. . . . Now, mental power is a fixed quantity—that is to say, there is a limit to the work a man can do with his mind, as there is a limit to the work he can do with his body, therefore the mental power which can be devoted to progress is only what is left after what is required for non-progressive purposes. These non-progressive purposes are maintenance and conflict.'' We will probably find little fault with this, except that progress is not defined, and after all it requires the conflict of opinion and interest to determine what it is.

The Program

''We must make land common property.'' This is to be accomplished by taxation, i. e., confiscation of economic rent, and the abolition of taxes on the making, exchanging or possession of wealth in any form. Rent for buildings or other improvements is permissible as interest to the owner. George further recognizes that taxation may be used against certain articles the exchange of which it is desired to discourage—opium, cocaine, etc. Briefly stated then, he advocates a single tax on land values exempting improvements on or in land.

Auto-Hypnosis

ROCKEFELLER considers the Standard Oil as a beauty rose flowering in the buttonhole of Christianity. Morgan is assured that he will stand before God blameless and stainless to pass to the well-earned rest of Paradise.

The followers of Abu-bekir, Omar and Akbar were equally sure, with Morgan, of the same reward when they threw the Christian dogs into the Yermuk or the Brahmin dogs into the Indus.

The scum of the Russian jails—the ''Black Hundred''—murder young Jewish girls in the same spirit, while their master, the infamous Nicholas, betrays Finland in the name of the Greek Church of Christ. All are confident of the Paradaisical reward.

Mary Tudor, having lost Calais and Philip, her dearest possession and her husband, proceeded to burn Englishmen to the glory of God that in Paradise she might attain to that happiness which she had not had wit enough to grasp on earth.

Morgan looted the New Haven, Gould the Erie, Stanford the Union Pacific, and all the Western roads loot the national forests under the ''lieu-law act.'' All railroad presidents, defunct, are in Paradise. Wall Street would leave not enough wool on the sheep's back to embroider the $, but no banker considers this vale of tears as legitimate reimbursement for his sacrifices in the interest of humanity. Only Paradise can make up to him—and to it he looks with longing eyes.

Tamerlane was one representative of our race who could do a job properly. When his cohorts overthrew a city they piled up the skulls into a mountain, threw down walls and houses, tramped the mess of blood and mud with their 800,000 horses, and, when the soil was well-prepared, sowed it to barley. The next year saw grain fields where, before the Tartar came, was a populous city. All authorities agree, himself included, that Tamerlane is in Paradise.

These people must think that God is as easy a mark as the Structural Iron Workers' Union, the American Senate, or the Supreme Court. It is a ''case'' in supra liminal psychology. It is that marvelous power of the human mind to believe whatever it thinks it will, irrespective of whether it knows it to be false or not. It is not religion; it is pathology. All railroad and corporation presidents should be examined by alienists to see if the Paradise microbe cannot be isolated. Following this, a serum from John D.'s Institute should be inoculated into them, and they might be willing to go to hell with the common laborer. As it is now, Paradise must be a dangerous place. S. H.

Dayal and Bryan—Agitators

By WILLIAM C. OWEN

F HAR DAYAL, Hindu philosopher and agitator, is to be deported for speaking harshly of the British government, there are several million Irishmen whose skins will be in danger, and the Democratic party will find votes running shy. Likewise one may remember that whenever Greenbackism, Populism and other evanescent forms of discontent have had the audacity to raise their heads, a disposition to whack the British government as hard as words could whack it has always been apparent. In short, it is a national tradition that the British government stands always for the mailed fist; for the absorption, via the missionary route, of the choicest portions of this little world; for gunboat assertion of absentee landlord and bondholder rights, with all that the blindly-struggling masses feel instinctively is most objectionable. Even Mexico is at one with us in this, and outside of "Cientifico" circles you will have to travel far to run across an admirer of Lord Cowdray.

Dayal has the temerity to share these views, and —which is obviously far more unpardonable—to put them into circulation where they will do the greatest possible amount of harm, viz., in India itself.

What the criminal's past may have been can cut but little figure, being admissible at most only as extenuating testimony, which in matters of such gravity does not count. The thing is that he is stirring up the discontented, and that there are more than three hundred millions of them. The British government which rules these hundreds of millions is presumably, by that very fact, not entirely void of capacity to reason; it reads its bible religiously and understands the parable of the grain of mustard seed. That Dayal is a scholar and ascetic; that the British government itself sent him to Oxford as a specially brilliant pupil, and that he has been a lecturer on philosophy at Stanford University; these and other good marks that might be placed to his credit cannot be considered. Great Britain's concern is with the present, and Dayal is dangerous.

He himself feels no fear as to the result; for he claims that he has resided in the United States three years, and is therefore immune to deportation. Others of us are not so confident; for we note the care with which British detectives have worked up the case, following Dayal in his wanderings through France, Switzerland, Martinique and elsewhere.

As always, safety lies in open, bold, persistent agitation; in dragging the facts to light and forcing them to the attention of the indifferent public's nose. In the present instance we can do this with great benefit to the cause of international revolt, and with exceptional force, because we have most distinguished backing. Our own Secretary of State, William Jennings Bryan, has denounced British rule in India as, I think, Dayal himself never denounced it, and the indictment he published was so complete that by no possibility can he now eat his words. That indictment has been published and distributed broadcast by the British Committee of the Indian National Congress, having its headquarters in London.

In the publication mentioned Bryan tells us that, after visiting India and making extended investigation among men of every class, he found that "British rule in India is far worse, far more burdensome to the people, and far more unjust—if I understand the meaning of the word—than I had supposed." Here are a few of the grounds on which he based his judgment:

"The trouble is that England acquired India for England's advantage, not for India's, and that she holds India for England's benefit, not for India's. She administers India with an eye to England's interests, not India's, and she passes judgment upon every question as a judge would were he permitted to decide his own case." It will be noted that the argument is of universal application; that it applies equally to our own rule of the Philippines and would apply should we invade Mexico.

Bryan says further: "The government of India is as arbitrary and despotic as the government of Russia ever was, and in two respects it is worse. First, it is administered by an alien people, whereas the officials of Russia are Russians. Secondly, it drains a large part of the taxes out of the country, whereas the Russian government spends at home the money which it collects from the people." He then reminds us that the natives pay into the government nearly $225,000,000 a year, of which nearly $100,000,000 is expended on an army in which natives cannot be officers. What a world of suggestion as to the real situation is contained in that last comment!

Figures are quoted to show that suspension of the coinage of silver in India reduced the value of the natives' savings by $500,000,000, and that the death rate has risen from 24 to the 1000 in 1882 to 34 to the 1000 at the time when the pamphlet in question was published. He takes the British government's published statement for 1904-5 and shows that, while more than $90,000,000 was appropriated for the army, only $6,500,000 was to go for education. Yet 90 per cent of the male population and 99 per cent of the female

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Necessity Knows No Law

By C. B. HOFFMAN

WHENEVER man-made law comes into conflict with the "Law of Life" it is swept aside.

The "will to live" is the supreme power. It bows to nothing. It is irresistible. From the simplest form to the most complex organism it creates organism and organs best suited for its expressions. Society is its product, and is continuously modified to give that "will to live" the highest and most complete manifestation.

Today robbery and theft, murder and prostitution, legal and illegal, prevail because the individual "will to live" is not co-ordinated with the social organism.

There is unrest, discontent and conflict, because the social structure does not adequately respond to the needs and aspirations—even the material needs—of myriads of human beings that swarm, homeless and unmated, upon the earth.

Society says: "Thou shalt not steal," but when man must steal or starve, he steals. He obeys the more vital impulse. When he steals and kills, in order to dominate his fellow-men, be it by the sword or the dollar, by war or finance, he steals and kills. He obeys the more vital impulse, even though it be hideously perverted.

This is history. This is today's and yesterday's experience.

Up to this time **material necessity, economic determinism,** has ruled the destiny of the individual and has thus shapen the history of the race.

But a new age dawns. Man has conquered the oppugnant forces of nature. He produces material things in abundance for the comfort, east and luxury of all.

This accomplished, the structure of society, will, in due time, so change that this plentitude of material things shall find its way, without friction or waste, to every individual, even as the air we breathe, the food we eat and drink finds its way to the proper organs to be subconsciously assimilated for the benefit and well-being of the whole body.

Society will produce and distribute almost automatically. Its members will find joy and recreation in the small amount of physical labor required to create enough for all, and the problem "How to make a living?" which now darkens life, will sink into insignificance.

Man freed from the incubus of material want or the fear of it, will rise to heights of **individual development** undreamed of by the most ardent individualists of today.

Freedom consists, not in separative, individualistic, competitive efforts to supply material needs—but, being once freed from that bitter struggle—in stretching our wings to vast flights in the boundless regions of the intellect, the emotions and the spirit.

Individualism in its deepest meanings will find its most complete expressions that is organized to produce material things easily and without drudgery or overwork, and to distribute them spontaneously in response to the needs of every individual.

Economic freedom of the individual which can only be attained by making material production and distribution social functions, is the essential condition of his social, intellectual, emotional and spiritual liberty.

WHO COUNSELS PATIENCE?

By Edgcumb Pinchon

PATIENCE? Who counsels patience?
Shall the Social Wrong be righted by patience?
Shall the Soul of Humanity be torn from its slave-stupor, its brutish unfaith, its hypnotisms, by gentle argument, by sweet self-careful patience?
Nay—but the divine abandon of the flaming soul, by the divine imprecations of them that are beside themselves, by the lash of the scourging Christ whom men called mad!
Patience? Who counsels patience?
The soul that's made its pact with Liberty knows not the name of patience.
I adore the Christ who, with thunderous brows and powerful impatient hands, knotted his heavy lash of writhing need to flay the backs of the money-changers!
I adore the Christ who — hungry and impatient — blasted the barren fig-tree—Yea, tho' it was not the season for figs!
I adore the Christ who cursed: "Woe unto you Scribes and Pharisees—Whited Sepulchres!"
I adore the Christ who mocked: "I came not to bring peace but a sword!"
I adore the Christ before whose terrible glance the soldiery fell back amazed!
I adore the Christ of fearful damning silences, of devastating wrath, of searing satire, of writhing impatience, of withering imprecations!
No flaccid psalm—singer He!
No cautious reformist! No timorous mechanical theoretician!
But a Man—a Flaming Soul.
I adore his divine abandon!

A Product

By WALTER BURNETT

MIKE was born and raised in the slums. He had a surname but nobody ever bothered to use it. He was just Mike, one of the common herd.

When Mike reached the age of eight his father died of delirium tremens. Two years later, unable to secure sufficient nourishment to keep two of the component parts of the whole of matter—body and soul—together, his mother died. Nobody cared exeept Mike and that didn't matter.

Mike lived in a tenement. The landlord eame around in his six-eylinder auto, bought with money derived from profit of the dark, dismal, ignorance-fostering hovel in whieh Mike and the rest of the common herd lived—I mean existed.

"Where's your mother?" asked the landlord.

"Dead."

"Where's my rent?"

"Why—dead," answered Mike.

The landlord waited until Mike had secured his scanty possessions from the "flat," and then he closed and locked the door, hanging a "to let" sign in the most conspicuous plaee.

Mike slept wherever he could at night, sold papers in the daytime, and secured a scattering knowledge of reading; enough to enable him to learn about "ladies" and "gentlemen" giving $100,000 social entertainments, and feasting on lobsters, obtained by virtue of the fact that there were still a considerable number of "goats" in existence.

So Mike reached the age of 22 years, ugly, ignorant, and devoid of hope. At this glorious period of his "eareer" he was laboring ten hours a day as a section-hand at $1.25.

He asked for 25 cents a day raise, and when the foreman recovered from his surprise he fired Mike.

Jobs were scarce. So was money.

One morning Mike stood before the door of a store. The baker had just passed, leaving a dozen loaves of bread in a box with cover unlocked. The laws of society said to Mike: "You cannot have that bread, unless you have money to pay for it, even if you are starving to death."

One of the laws of nature—self-preservation—whispered to Mike: "You are hungry; here is food; eat."

Mike obeyed the law of nature.

An officer of the laws of society, being so near as to cause himself no exertion, arrested Mike.

"Guilty or not guilty?" asked the judge.

"Guilty," answered Mike.

He was placed in jail until his antecedents could be looked up. One week later he was again before the court.

The judge looked over his polished mahogany desk.

"You are guilty of larceny," he said, and then read Mike's antecedents: Poor, ignorant, out of work, no money, no friends, no "pull."

"Hm," said the judge. "Bread has been stolen from your neighborhood at frequent intervals, I will make an example of you." In plaeing a copy of Mike's antecedents on a pointed file, he scratched his soft white hand. He glared at the scratch with a frown.

"Three years," he snapped.

"Three years," automatieally recorded the clerk.

"Three years," muttered a reporter, adjusting his tie.

"Three years," laughed a spectator to his companion.

"Three years," groaned Mike in a pitifully cracked, ehoking voice. "THREE YEARS!"

He went in, a clear-eyed youth. He came out, an old man.

"Well, anyway," he thought, "I will live honest."

He bummed his way to a country town. A farmhouse stood by the roadside. Mike knocked at the door.

"I'm looking for work."

"What ean you do?" asked the farmer.

"Anything."

"Well, we need men to get the hay—— Say, where did you come from?" noticing Mike's prison pallor and other telltale signs. Mike was about to say "back east," but he knew appearances were against him, so he said "prison."

"Wait a minute," said the farmer. He returned with a shotgun. "Now git!"

Mike "got."

This was an up-to-date neighborhood. Farmhouses were connected by telephone. When Mike reaehed the next house he was persuaded by a rifle to leave before he stated his business. The next place resembled a miniature fort; others were made conspicuous by white-fanged bulldogs.

The law of self-preservation whispered to Mike again. Perhaps he would need a revolver for protection. He purchased one with part of the small sum of money given him when he left prison.

Coming back to the farmhouses he approached one and found the inmate sitting on the porch, with a gun in his hand.

"I'm looking for work," said Mike.

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The Wilwaukee Co-operativists

THE Bay View "bunch" began it. And they were regarded at first with some suspicion, as being tainted with heresy. But having one of the strongest ward branches in the city—the Seventeenth ward—and being a pretty solid unit on most matters which they undertook, they were not afraid of anybody.

The time was just after the defeat of the Socialist administration. And that was also largely the reason. You see, some of the "woozy"—that means "non-partisan" in Milwaukee—are storekeepers. And some of them really forgot that the so-called defeat of the Socialists in Milwaukee was accomplished by counting up about 31,000 Socialists. Anyway, some of the little storekeepers actually became arrogant and overbearing toward the Socialists who patronized their stores. Several of them out on Howell avenue went the limit, almost refusing to wait on Socialist customers.

In May and June, 1912, they were agitating, studying, and organizing. By July they had out their incorporation papers, under the new Wisconsin co-operative law. (This was framed by a Socialist member of the Society of Equity—of the farmers—and pushed through by the Socialists in the 1911 Legislature.)

On August 28, 1912, they opened their store. They had bought out a little neighborhood store, run by a young Socialist, hired him and two other experienced grocerymen to take charge, and broke loose.

They had about $2000 in cash when they started. By January, 1913, they had sold $10,000 worth of goods, invested $2840 in stock, developed a trade extending over half of the city, and prepared to begin on a development of the whole county. They paid a dividend of about 2.5 per cent on the purchases of stockholders for this first period.

In January, 1914, the audit of the business for 1913 showed a total business for the year of about $50,000. The number of employes had grown to ten, with three wagons going most of the time on regular routes, ranging from South Milwaukee to West Allis and all of Milwaukee except the East Side, where the aristocrats live.

The reason the business did not show high profits was owing to the expense of building up this widely scattered trade. But this seemed the wisest way in the long run, as comrades everywhere were asking to be served, and not to have served them would probably have resulted in the organization of scattered stores, under more or less conflicting management, and the probable failure of some of them. Slower growth, with solid results, has been achieved, with a continuous and experienced management at the helm all the while.

The development of the west and north side wagon trade finally made it wiser to open a branch store on the west side, and this was accomplished during the week before Christmas. The instant and splendid growth of the trade at this store has justified the new step. Milwaukee will show Socialists of America the practicability of co-operation, even under capitalism, and while we are working for its overthrow.

G. E. B.

To the Woman in the Dark

By Eleanor Wentworth

SISTER, we know the pain
That stabs your heart as you strive in vain
to know yourself, to be yourself;
To win world-wisdom, not glory or pelf.
Art not the sorrowing Muse that's dumb,
The Muse bereft of the power of tongue?

We see the bitter tears,
Mothers' heart's blood are they, and fears
For your babe—all babes—whom greed maims.
While you stand with your hands in chains.
Slavery, once clothed with sweetest charm,
Is now the cause of wild alarm.

Mothers always are sworn
To serve, not babes, but men; they're shorn
Of freedom for no racial gain,
'Tis but to lie in passion's chain.
Babes are served when no fathers call
And Woman is not served at all.

It is not love that's wrong,
But the way we've served it for so long,
Living not **for** but **by** this love,
As slaves below, puppets above;
The hapless instruments that fill
The primal good with endless ill.

Because you stand alone
Your burdens weigh your spirit down.
Our hearts yearn as we hear your cries.
Come to us! In unity lies
The strength to tear the film away,
Which obscures thought and sight today.

Come to us, Sister ours!
We need your hidden, sleeping powers.
We shall lead sweet love from his cell,
Unbind his eyes at last. He'll dwell
With folded wings no more apart,
But in the throbbing, great world's heart.

Colonists Demons

Llano Del Rio, in Vast, Fertile Valley of Southern Califor
Future Developme

By FRAI

LANO DEL RIO COLONY, in the Antelope Valley, is attracting widespread attention as the largest co-operative colonization enterprise ever launched in the United States.

Inquiries have been pouring in from almost every state, and so great an interest is taken that scores of persons have announced their intention to visit the colony in the near future. Several thousand extra copies of

Rio del Llano (river of the plain), also known as Rock creek. This photograph, taken in the latter part of June, gives some idea of the volume of visible water flowing in the bed of the stream at a point near where it enters the valley.

THE WESTERN COMRADE for June, which carried articles describing the location and the plans for the colony, have been sent out on request, and the edition is nearly exhausted.

This article is written for the purpose of covering some of the information previously carried, and to reply to some questions continually being asked.

The colony is situated in the Antelope Valley, Los Angeles county, California, about seventy miles from Los Angeles, by automobile road or by railway to Palmdale, on the Southern Pacific Line.

The land lies on a high plateau that slopes gently to the northward from the foothills directly to the north of the Sierra Madre Range, San Bernardino Mountains. Most of the property is between the Rio del Llano, also known as Big Rock Creek, on the west, and Mescal Creek on the east. It is from these two streams that the colonists will obtain the water for the irrigation of the lands below.

The water supply for these two streams is from the high mountains from the south, where the snow lies in the deep canyons the greater part of the year.

The business of the colony has been thus far under the corporate name of Mescal Water and Land Company, incorporated under the laws of the state of California. This was a corporation taken over at the time the colonization plans were being formulated, and it provides a practical and safe working basis. Later the name will be changed to one more appropriate to the enterprise.

The land lies at an altitude of about 3500 f
the climate is healthful and invigorating. This elevation, aided by the cooling breezes from the mountains, insures an equable and agreeable climate in spring, summer and autumn. During the winter the rainfall in the valley is slight, and there is a high percentage of sunshine. The thermometer registers as low as freezing point during the winter, and the air becomes bracing, and it is these cool nights that make the valley an ideal place to raise deciduous fruits.

The soil is largely decomposed granite, which, when exposed to the air by cultivation and irrigation, oxidizes and becomes soft, friable and rich.

The water resources of the corporation are sufficient to irrigate all the lands under its control. Exclusive rights have been secured on the waters of Jackson's Lake, Mescal Creek and Boulder Creek, which the engineers of the company declare are sufficient to irrigate 10,000 acres of land.

trate Co-operation

is Scene of Remarkable Undertaking---Outline of Plans for of Great Enterprise

E. WOLFE

Considerable hydro-electric power can be developed at these points. This power will be used to run farming, factory and domestic machinery; heat and light all the public buildings and private dwellings in the colony.

The land, water and climatic conditions render this an ideal spot for the growing of deciduous fruits, such as pears, apples, peaches, plums, cherries, apricots, olives, figs and walnuts.

The pears grown in this district are especially fine. Those at Little Rock, a few miles directly west from the colony, are bringing in a large earning to the fortunate owners of the orchards.

Alfalfa earns good profits, and after the first year yields from four to six cuttings a year.

The colony now has about 375 acres growing in alfalfa, and the men are cutting on about 300 acres. Some of the newly cleared land is being planted in kaffir corn and other small grain, which will be used to feed the stock as a "finisher." Hogs are being fed the alfalfa, and they are increasing at a satisfactory rate. These porkers will form one of the highly concentrated products of the colony, as the prices are always high and the demand steady.

All kinds of berries, small fruits and garden truck will be given careful attention. Dairy and poultry products will be among the output for the market. With the gardening, poultry raising, dairying and fruit growing conducted on a large, collective scale, the colonists expect to produce 95 per cent of the food they consume, and have a large marketable margin.

The company aims to attract about 1000 men and women to the colony. These, with their families, will constitute a gathering that will make a population for a fair-sized city. According to plans, this city will be built on the high table land at the southern side of the property. Landscape artists, architects and others are planning an ideal city, both from a viewpoint of beauty and utility.

The plan under which persons are entering the colony is as follows:

Each member subscribes for 2000 shares of stock at a par value of $1 per share. Five hundred of these shares are paid for in cash on entering the colony.

No one member is allowed to own more than 2000 shares.

Every working member receives a wage of $4 a day. There is no scale, and everyone is on the same basis with every other one. Of this wage $1 is to be set aside to pay for the remaining 1500 shares of stock. The remaining $3 go to the credit of the worker, and from this he pays for his food, clothing, shelter, and other necessaries and luxuries. Whatever margin is left after that, is deposited to his credit. A certain agreed amount of cash may be drawn from this each year. Provision is made for vacations.

Dam No. 1, on the Mescal, is the first concrete construction in the colony. The cement mixer is operated by a gasoline engine, and it does the work of several men. With a small crew excellent progress was made on the diverting dam.

Anyone wishing to withdraw may do so, selling

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EDITORIAL

NIMBLE DOLLAR DOPE

CAPITALISM is squirming and writhing as in the throes of green apple angina. Out of the agony grows "Nimble Dollar" nonsense, armies of Optimism, frugal Fridays and prosperity parades. The sad feature is that captains and ginerals of (other peoples') industry don't know when and where it swallowed the immature manzana.

In getting at causes, the working class is giving serious consideration to the financial problems, and this projects a small cloud over the horizon and in that cloud wise financiers forsee a coming storm that bids fair to sweep Capitalism out of existence.

Every reader of this magazine should study Edgcumb Pinchon's articles on the coming co-operative banks to be established by labor.

Here are a few facts which should be pondered: Capitalism, about one hundred years old, grew up on a system of cash exchange. The system is outoutgrown and now 90 per cent of business is done on credit. This credit rests upon the dollar, but there is about nine dollars' credits for every dollar in actual existence.

Capitalists do business on the check and exchange system. The poorer class—the workers—have no credit and no checks. Organized labor of America has about $25,000,000 in its treasuries and about $500,000,000 in individual savings. The workers of America have over $7,000,000,000 in savings. Based on every dollar of this is nine dollars in credits. The workers deposit these billion dollars in savings banks and the banks lend the money to capitalist exploiters.

Now for the big idea: Let the workers withdraw their money from the Capitalists banks and deposit in the coming co-operative banks of labor. These banks are already forming. For every dollar withdrawn nine dollars' credits of Capitalism will disappear!

When this movement starts the whole fabric of exploitation will be shaken. Ultimately it will be destroyed. The sleeping giant is awakening.—F. E. W.

AGAINST HIS CONSTITUTION

IT'S all off. Here's where we curl up like a discouraged caterpillar and quit the game. Chester H. Rowell has smashed us on the beezer and we go to the mat for the count.

Sitting in solemn tribunal Chester has called the proposed universal eight-hour law for California workers up before his high bar of justice and pronounced it unconstitutional. He says it's class legislation and inasmuch as it is a working class legislation it is condemned out of hand. Doubtless this action was taken without consultation with Otis—it wasn't necessary.

What constitution will be offended is not stated, but it is morally certain that Chester's temperamental, physical and financial constitution will be shocked when the eight-hour law shall be adopted. And rightly.

Think of the hardships this would entail on overpaid and underworked clerks, cashiers, solicitors, reporters and editors, and other intellectuals on Mr. Rowell's newspaper!

As for the mechanical department—well, that low-browed bunch of typesetters, stereotypers, pressmen, etc., had the poor taste to organize into those hated labor unions and long ago forced an eight-hour day for themselves!

No wonder Chester's constitution is already in rebellion against such an outrageous idea as an eight-hour day.—F. E. W.

FARMERS AROUSED

IN ENGLAND the National Farmers' Union threatens to strike for better housing, garden plots and—leisure to work the gardens. Lloyd George met the demands of a deputation in the way representatives of government usually meet them—by handing out a set of well-worded promises.

The incident is illuminating and consoling in one way: the farmers somewhere have the good sense to organize and make demands which, one sincerely hopes, they are prepared to follow with vigorous action.—F. E. W.

BATTLING FOR THE LORD

ONE of the delightful events of the season is the little doings between Amos Pinchot and George W. Perkins, chairman of the Bull Moose Executive Committee. Pinchot strolls onto the fields of Esdraelon, which is the same township and range as Armageddon, and there he is met by Perkins. While the fierce light beats down on his brow Pinchot raises his voice and asks if Perk is honest. Perkins responds with all the force and logic of a fat checkbook, and they are at it, battling for the Lord.

Pinchot points out the absurdity of placing the words "social and industrial justice" on the Bull Moose banners and retaining as chairman a man whose record shows him to be an enemy to the working class and a foe to justice.

Thus Pinchot sees in Perkins a Jonah who will bring a storm of disapproval from Labor. The Bull Moose bunch is holding high hopes that there are enough Henry Dubbses of Labor to fall for the lure and elect their candidates.

In California we have a fine example of this stupidity. Here some of the so-called leaders of Labor are urging the members of unions to work for the election of the man who permitted the San Diego atrocities, encouraged the Wheatland outrage and directed the assault on the disemployed at Sacramento.

Is Labor the blind, dumb creature of a muddy brain that the Bull Moosers think? Let us hope the awakening is at hand, and that the workers refuse to be fooled again.—F. E. W.

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MEDIATION AND ACTION

WHILE mediators are sipping gin rickeys and dawdling over orchid salads at Niagara Falls, and Huerta is chuckling at his success in outwitting the cockey naval officers and ponderous-minded diplomats, Pancho Villa's tatterdemalion army is filling cartridge belts, adjusting rifle sights and fighting its way steadily toward the capital. Most of the men who are fighting—and winning—in the Mexican revolution never heard of Niagara Falls.

Out of the profundity of their ignorance, Americans persist in saying the Mexicans do not know what they are fighting for. Never was there a more stupid statement. They know precisely what they want, and they know they will get it, though the journey be long and blood-strewn.

"Tierra y Libertad!"—"Land and Liberty!" That means a long, bitter fight. It means that the man who goes into the fight with that battle cry on his lips may be killed—he can't be conquered.

This struggle is commanding the attention of the entire world. Military dictators and political intriguers may come and go, but the day of peonage in Mexico is past forever. This agrarian uprising is a wonderful movement. Radicals the world over should not only watch this contest but should help it, and take it as a valuable lesson of the advantages of action over theorizing.—F. E. W.

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UNREST AND CIVIL WAR

IF THE Industrial Relations Commission will permit us to direct its attention for a moment to the situation in the copper mining district it may discover there some more causes for the "unrest" it is investigating.

The Calumet mine owners have broken every promise they made to the Commissioners. They have succeeded, by their misrepresentation, in getting the strike called off without signing any agreement. They have refused employment to all who testified before the investigators. They have refused to hire men who took part in the strike, even though they had taken no prominent part, and had not been arrested by the mine guards.

Miners in the district, who have gone back into the Calumet & Hecla at the old subsistence wage, know that that company has just paid to the New England parasites, who own stock in the corporation, dividends to the amount of $1,800,000, and that the company has a surplus of $10,716,000.

The miners know that these millions are fleecings. This knowledge and awakening will be the beginning of the power of the workers. If the workers become convinced that men toiling under such conditions as the miners of Michigan, of West Virginia and Colorado, cannot secure industrial and economic freedom through peaceful means, and that the master class stands ready to shoot and bayonet them back to their tasks, then we have reached the point in America where we have all the elements of a civil war.—F. E. W.

THE STATE AS AN EXPLOITER

IF THOSE who established the parcels post had an idea of giving the people a half-way measure and allowing the express companies to continue their extortionate rates and indifferent service, their illusions have been rudely dispelled. There is a widespread and insistent demand for extensions of service. This clamor is irresistible and the service is improving from week to week, this without regard for the overburdened postoffice employes.

Close on the heels of the announcement that the postal department will carry farm, dairy and poultry products in certain zones, come the advertisements of the Adams Express Company of its new order and food products service, "to promote more intimate relations between producer and consumer."

Now watch the underpaid and overworked postoffice employe and the underpaid and overworked express company employe shoulder heavier burdens in this competition between a privately owned capitalist institution and a collectively owned state capitalist bureau for exploiting the workers.—F. E. W.

♣ ♣ ♣

OUR GREAT OPPORTUNITY

AMERICAN Socialists are making a profound mistake in overlooking an opportunity to make the most of every war move on the part of Capitalist controllers of the country.

The efforts of a popinjay naval officer and Jingo journals to bring about international strife in Mexico should have been met by a terrific anti-military campaign.

As a party builder nothing beats an anti-militarism campaign. Le Peuple, Socialist daily of Brussels, has compiled a startling table showing the value of this line of activity. In Bulgaria the vote was increased from 25,000 to 85,000 by an anti-war campaign. Italian Socialists had twenty-four deputies in the Chamber previous to the war with Tripoli. After the struggle the anti-war faction of the Socialists elected fifty-three representatives.

In Sweden the Socialists cast 172,980 votes in 1911 and elected sixty-four members. The king and the jingos tried to stampede the nation into a policy of militarism by pulling the ancient Russian terror scare. The Socialists, instead of yielding or remaining silent, made the most of their opportunity and increased their vote to 230,000, and this year elected seventy-three legislators.

French militarists blundered when they increased the appropriations and lengthened the term of service to three years. Socialists who opposed the policy had 1,125,000 votes and seventy-five deputies in 1911. With militarism as the issue, the Socialist vote in 1914 rose to 1,400,000 and the number of deputies to 102.

Why do we allow this opportunity to pass? Why not make anti-intervention in Mexico and anti-militarism in Colorado and other states our big issue? Can it be we are so afraid of losing a few votes that we shrink from our duty and thus lose a great opportunity?—F. E. W.

♣ ♣ ♣

SHIPPING TRUST MURDERS

IF THE United States Senate ratifies the London Convention on Safety of Life at Sea it, in effect, will be a sanction of the murder of the victims of the Empress of Ireland disaster.

The powerful shipping interests have fought every move toward laws that would force safety appliances and full crews on the largest passenger-carrying steamers. Conditions under the recent London convention are even worse than the British law. Big ships are all undermanned and these provisions declare that only 75 per cent of the crew are needed for handling lifeboats!

One-half of most of the crews need interpreters to be able to understand orders from officers, and these are untrained, unskilled, inefficient and inexperienced landsmen. Andrew Furuseth declares that the appalling loss of life in the disasters to the Titanic, Volturno, Oceano, Valencia, Columbian and Empress of Ireland is traceable to undermanning and unskilled handling of vessels.

The Senate adopted the Lafollette seaman's bill October 23 last, but the House has taken no action. This is considered a reasonably effective measure. For the United States to adopt this measure and reject the London convention would be to severely rebuke the murderous shipping trust. What is your guess about the outcome of pending action?—F. E. W.

Review of Tragic History

BY GEORGIA KOTSCH

IN LAYING down the newest history of Mexico the thought that naturally occurs is that if our school-day histories had been written thus one might have learned what it was all about instead of learning one day to forget the next which general brought up which division upon which date and how many men were killed. This latest and most accurate, up-to-the-hour history is entitled, "The Mexican People: Their Struggle for Freedom," by L. Guiterrez DeLara and Edgcumb Pinchon.

Drenched throughout with the blood of her loyal people is the tragic history of Mexico, but the details of slaughter are only recounted where necessary for the understanding of the ceaseless struggle which her sons of the soil have waged against entrenched privilege in church and state and for impressing the incredible extremes to which the House of Have will resort to maintain itself upon the shoulders of the House of Work.

The book is frankly working class in its sympathies, as to be intelligent a modern history must be. That was what was the matter with our school histories; they were not intelligent. It marks a departure in history writing from progress by superhuman attributes in great men to progress through the natural unfolding of material forces, in the case of Mexico, however, being chiefly a tale of the wreck and ruin of collision between those forces and interests opposed to social development.

True, the virtues of the heroes of the people—Hidalgo, Guerrero, Morelos, Jaurez—are painted in monochrome, with no shadings of human failings, yet who shall deny the martyr of the revolution his need? Bustamante, Iturbide, Santa Ana, Diaz, though filmed consistently as villainous, are but the human instruments through which the clashing economic forces played and are what they are because of the material interests which moulded them.

DeLara is one of the rare types of men who not only agitates, but fights. For years he worked for the revolution. Again and again he risked his life before the revolt began. As a political refugee he was persecuted when he sought sanctuary in America. He was imprisoned several times in the United States. In the field he fought with distinction.

It is an economic history, the unholy trinity of church, army and land monopoly on one side, the working people on the other. Of the church and army it is said: "Both organizations, whenever and wherever they exist, are by virtue of their nature incapable of assimilating or acting upon any idea of social order or development." On the part of the people is depicted an irrepressible idealism, the passionate panting of a nation for liberty, which lifts their struggle above all sordidness.

Blood and psychology are recognized as subsidiary forces, and all the evil of Mexico is attributed to a small, parasitic and originally alien part of the nation; all the human virtues, the arts of civilization and the reach toward democracy, to the working class natives. Still, the book is written with sanity and without bitterness. It is the careful student who writes as well as the native Mexican touched with the iron which has seared his people. The chief oppressor has been of Spanish strain, yet we find the Spanish psychology not railed at, but accounted for. The thousand years of carnage between the hosts of Islam and the hosts of Christ in which Spain was the buffer for all Europe developed in it blood-lust and religious fanaticism.

In rescuing the virtues of the native races of Mexico from the defaming pen of Spanish historians Mr. DeLara claims that the barbarous and degenerate native priesthood was not an Aztec peculiarity, but a peculiarity of priestcraft in all ages. He believes the native blood, with its intelligence, artistry and gentleness, will yet overcome its evil legacy of Spanish admixture. The brilliant stretch of native rule from 1856 to 1876 is quoted in proof of the ability and superiority of the native races.

The jealousy of the Mexican people for their national integrity is shown a dominant characteristic, and upon that and the religious instinct, church and privilege were able to play for their own purposes. Religious instinct is defined by the authors as the "deep, obliquely expressed desire of the partially awakened man to become initiate in that science of mind which he dimly divines will emancipate him from the fear which is ignorance, eradicate the reflex matter-impulses which he calls passion, and make him altogether human, the supreme master of himself and his environment." Priestcraft and the church as an institution are attacked without mercy. The rebel worker clung to his religion on the battlefield and the ingrained corruption which fear, ignorance and supersitition had wrought in his mental caliber plucked victory from his hands, which were paralyzed for the working out of the constitution's provisions by the thundering bluff of a pope's mandate. Thus the Ayutla revolution, with its great

constitution of 1857, establishing the Man Right over the Property Right, was robbed of adequate results. Of the constitution the writers say:

"If you shall ask the Mexican man of the people, be he peaceable peon tilling the fields, or skilled mechanic in the shop, or student in the schools, or miner toiling in noisome depths, or fighter with rifle at back for the fatherland and liberty—what is the deepest desire of his heart, his answer will be, 'The constitution of 1857.'"

Foreign interference has ever been the bane of Mexico—first Spain, later France, the planting interests of the South, and last, American Big Business.

Diaz' laurels as "railroad builder and maker of Mexico" are shorn from him. The creation of the "Diaz Myth" is attributed to the colossal concessions in which lawyers, editors, politicians and preachers of various nationalities were shareholders—a "world conspiracy which defamed and exploited the common people of Mexico for thirty-four years. * * * It was a matter of dividends."

The story of the evictions of the people under the Dictator, the plunder of their lands and the selling of them into slavery is enough to account for any number of years of fighting as long as the people have any fighting blood left in their veins. "The agrarian democracy of Mexico was reduced to the lowest slavery * * * at the behest of the land speculator and the church."

The Madero disappointment clarified the people's minds. Pressed out of it was a new cry, "Viva la Tierra! Viva la Constitucion!" They would fight for economic reorganization and not for a man henceforth.

The persecution of the Liberal Junta—the Magons, Villareal, Rivera—under the Roosevelt regime is related, and credit for its educational work in Mexico accorded "Regeneracion." Memory is refreshed upon the part Roosevelt, that champion of righteousness, played in sentencing Mexico to pay a million and a half dollars to the Catholic Church in California, and over forty-three thousand annually in perpetuity.

The continuous revolt of the Mexican people against economic slavery is differentiated from the comic opera revolutions of the Latin republics between the "ins" and the "outs." One wonders that there is any virile blood left in Mexico. Sadly the authors admit that the toll of war has almost swallowed up the breed of Hidalgo. The present revolution speaks volumes for the tenacity and vitality of the Mexican people.

The history is brought down to the usurpation by Huerta. The democratization of the land is recognized as the object for which the rebels are fighting—an agrarian revolution by the peons. The manipulations by the oil and commercial interests are considered incidental and inevitable complications, Big Business eternally seeking advantage out of every move of the proletariat. Of the industrial questions which, in a machine age, must tread on the heels of an agrarian democracy when won, the book does not deal; further than that the authors believe that, upon the foundation of an agrarian democracy, an industrial democracy must arise. In the closing pages the young industrial giant of discord raises its head in the strikes of the Orizaba cotton mills and of Cananea.

The book has two distinct values: One, the clearing away of false ideas in regard to Mexico and its people; the other, it strips the glamour of benevolent motives from the dealings with Mexico of the United States and other countries and presents the stark truth that American and world capitalism has been, and is, in league against the proletariat of Mexico for its own sordid interest. And while the Mexican master class is depicted as the most depraved and bloodthirsty in history, the Socialist will see that the story of the Mexican proletariat is in greater or less degree and in varying circumstances the story of the proletariat in every country.

There are many fine photographic illustrations, and the splendid mastery of English and the fluent, readable style of Mr. DeLara's collaborator, Mr. Pinchon, make the book one of sustained interest. It is a book for the student and the worker.

"THE MEXICAN PEOPLE; THEIR STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM." By L. Guiterrez DeLara and Edgcumb Pinchon. Doubleday, Page & Co., $1.50.

A WAITER

By Rose Paster Stokes

The long and weary day I stand and wait—
And all the evening to the midnight hour:
The men are gay, the women beautiful;
They eat the food I dare but only smell,
And drink the wines I may not hope to taste;
They move an eyelash or a haughty brow,
Or lift a finger or a raucous voice,
And I obey and give them what they will.
They drink and eat, and talk their empty talk
While I, pale, weary, statue-like and dumb,
Stand waiting.

I stand and wait, and ponder as I wait:
For you the leisure and the wine of life;
For you the glory and the fruit of love.
For us the bondage and the bitter leas!
For us the venom of our love's despair!
And you—you fancy we shall long endure?
No! not forever shall we . . . . Yes, sir; wine?
Port, sir?—yes, sir! . . . . I am pale and dumb:
They chatter on; nor ever dream that we
Are thinking—yes, and waiting for a time . . . .
Just waiting. —The Masses.

Revolt Develops Poet

CARL SANDBURG will be lucky if he succeeds in escaping the accusation that he is a "rising poet of the revolution." That is usually what happens to rebels who burst into song.

Sandburg was astonished when he found himself in the spotlight in Chicago recently when POETRY printed a group of his verses. The daily newspapers and press associations carried stories about the amazing boldness of the man who called Chicago the "Hog Butcher for the World." Sandburg will be heard from again, and the world will know his worth.

In personal appearance this poet and sledgehammer writer is tall, almost gaunt, with a face that commands attention where seen. It cannot be described unless one might compare it with one of Rodin's wonderful Citizens of Calais. It is a face that is beautiful in its homeliness, its strength and sternness. When he smiles one forgets the other expression and thinks of Leonardo da Vinci or the Youthful Goethe.

When representatives of the newspapers sought Sandburg, after the publication of his verses, he submerged all the intellectual side of his life and concealed the story of his college training, and the writers drew a tolerably faithful picture of the poet as a rugged brickyard toiler and a railroad construction worker. They described him correctly as a former itinerant laborer and one-time soldier in Porto Rico.

Sandburg was Emil Seidel's secretary during the Socialist administration in Milwaukee.

These selections are from the verses printed in POETRY:

AT A WINDOW

Give me hunger,
O you gods that sit and give
The world its orders.
Give me hunger, pain and want,
Shut me out with shame and failure
From your doors of gold and fame,
Give me your shabbiest, weariest hunger!

But leave me a little love,
A voice to speak to me in the day end,
A hand to touch me in the dark room
Breaking the long loneliness.
In the dusk of day-shapes
Blurring the sunset,
One little wandering, western star
Thrust out from the changing shores of shadow.
Let me go to the window,
Watch there the day-shapes of dusk
And wait and know the coming
Of a little love.

THE ROAD AND THE END

I shall foot it
Down the roadway in the dusk,
Where shapes of hunger wander
And the fugitives of pain go by.

I shall foot it
In the silence of the morning,
See the night slur into dawn,
Hear the slow great winds arise
Where tall trees flank the way
And shoulder toward the sky.

The broken boulders by the road
Shall not commemorate my ruin.
Regret shall be the gravel under foot.
I shall watch for
Slim birds swift of wing
That go where wind and ranks of thunder
Drive the wild processionals of rain.

The dust of the traveled road
Shall touch my hands and face.

Those "Inalienable" Rights

Some "rights" which are alienated whenever such action is necessary to the convenience and comfort of your masters.

All "natural" rights.
Freedom of speech.
Freedom of the press.
Peaceful assemblage.
To bear arms.
To trial by jury of your peers.
To hold political opinions.
To regard your home as your castle.
Pursuit of happiness.
Life.
Liberty.

E. d'O.

Man's Origin and Destiny

Sciectific--Dramatic--Allegoric

By T. W. HEINEMAN

Introductory

The mystery of existenee! Whence and wherefore came we here? Whither are we going? These questions have since thousands of years hotly burned in every thoughtful human breast. The various religions of the world may be designated as efforts to explain by assigning supernatural actions. But since about 300 years a degree of liberty to investigate along rational and scientific lines has been obtained, and along these lines Father Time, Man and the Genius of History, are, in the following verses, represented as seeking and finding a substantial solution:

Enter:
Father Time.
Man (Representing Mankind).
The Genius of History.

MAN

Eternal Time! hear my appeal,
My past, my future, to reveal;
That with more confidence I may
Henceforth pursue life's wondrous way.

FATHER TIME

Rock-strata teach you how the earth
To land and water first gave birth;
Then how life's force has re-arranged
Atoms, cells, organs; how forms changed,
How plants and creatures, high and low,
From single cells began to grow.
Then, when arrived your race erect,
With ever-growing intellect,
Crafts, language, wars, religions, trade,
Of groups, hordes, tribes, great nations made.
Thus ran your past; your future fate
In detail I cannot relate.

But if in happiness and health
Your race would reap this planet's wealth
Then banish violence and deceptions,
Open your mind to these coneeptions.
In what the head and hand prepare
Let each, as he contributes, share.
Let nature's bounty be for all
And not the individuals thrall
Nor laws, nor rulers overreach
The equal freedom due to each.
To make this earth your Paradise,
Strive to be always kind, just, wise.

MAN

But Time, to many who do strive
By useful labors to survive,
Life's gifts are toil and poverty,
Few joys, but mostly misery;
Yea, wretched millions suffer, weep,
Down in their degradation deep.
For them 'twere better far to be
As happy as are brutes, as free
From carking cares and bitter sorrows,
As free from dread of dire tomorrows,
Where greed and cunning cannot spoil
The just results of honest toil.

FATHER TIME

O Man, the child of Life and Time,
Endowed with faculties sublime,
Not only can you understand
Deep mysteries of sea and land,
But Nature's everlasting force
And infinitely great resource;
Your industry and intellect
Have power to use and to direct,
Life to prolong and joys to gain,
Higher ideals to attain,
And out of lifeless, shapeless things
Your art its gems of beauty brings.

MAN

Time, these advantages accrue
thus far, on earth, to but a few;
For power to kill and to destroy
Counts more than means for life and joy.
Rude force and error blindly reign
While hypocrites in power remain,
and tainted wealth and rulers high
Can law and decency defy.
While platform, press, school, pulpit, state,
Pervert the truth to suit the Great,
Yet dare profess, O greatest shame,
To do these things in Jesus' name!

Look, nations proud of Christian order
Train fifteen million men for murder;
Unchecked by law the cunning take
What industry and genius make,
While those in power self but seek,
Kings, rulers, with corruption reek.
No wonder, then, that goodness dies
And evil-doing multiplies;
That Right and Truth are forced to hide
While Wrong and Falsehood boldly stride;
That gilt depravity prevails,
And truer, nobler manhood fails.

THE GENIUS OF HISTORY

Throughout all history I trace
Momentous changes in Man's race,
By which all unjust powers wane,
While Freedom, Truth and Justice gain.
Increasing knowledge radiates light
To cure mankind of error's blight;
Time-honored wrongs are losing hold,
Rude force, sly cunning, are less bold.
And as man grows more kind, just, wise,
Earth will become that Paradise
Where Truth, where Justice never fails,
Where noblest manhood e'er prevails.

(Exeunt.)

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Colonists Demonstrate Co-operation

(Continued from Page 17)

their stock to the best advantage, the company undertaking to assist them in this.

Under this system it is expected that a large tract of land may be brought to a high state of cultivation, greatly enhancing its value and earning capacity. Land purchased at a low price, cleared, cultivated, irrigated and planted in permanent crops becomes of greatly increased value.

The work, so far carried out on the land, has been by the use of modern methods and machinery that enables the colonists to work on a large scale.

Intensive cultivation on a wide scale is the plan of those who are engaged in the enterprise. To bring thousands of acres of land in this valley under cultivation and to plant a vast number of deciduous fruit trees and bring them into bearing, where the earnings will be even greater than that of orange lands, is the hope of the colonists.

But back of all this practical work lies the dream of the men and women who are striving to establish a colony that shall not only free them from capitalistic exploitation, but will show the world that co-operation can be put into actual practice, and that it is not a mere word with no practical meaning.

Plans for life in the city contemplate a great social center around which will be gathered the life of the colony. Near this center will be gathered the factories and the schools in close communication, for vocational training will occupy a large place in the curriculum of the educational department.

In the social center will be established the offices, library, theaters, lecture halls, assembly rooms, motion picture theaters, public baths, billiard halls, and rooms for other recreations, sports and pastimes.

For this center, surrounded by the dwellings of the city, a section of land, one mile square, will be set aside, and this will be intersected by parked boulevards, all running to the center.

On the land near at hand there is a large amount of limestone rock suitable for making lime and cement In the mountains there is an abundance of timber which can be secured from the Government at a very low price. This, combined with the labor of the colonists, will enable them to build their city at a cost extremely low, as compared with the expenses of construction elsewhere.

Dayal and Bryan—Agitators

(Continued from Page 12)

are unable to read or write! Such people are easy to govern, and it is to the interest of governors to keep them such.

Bryan also quotes from the "Indian World," a Calcutta magazine, which says: "When the English came to India this country was the leader of Asiatic civilization and the indisputed center of light in the Asiatic world. Japan was nowhere. Now, in fifty years, Japan has revolutionized her history, with the aid of modern arts of progress, and India, with 150 years of English rule, is still condemned to tutelage." Could there be a more convincing illustration of the great, historically-proved truth that to rule people against their will is to ruin them? But let us not forget that those who wilfully submit to such self-ruin are, at least, fully as blameable. It is Dayal's supreme virtue that he is not one of those.

As to what the Hindus must do, only one course seems open to them. In common with the rest of us they must, somehow or other, kick off their rider. Somehow or other they must get rid of the leech that drains their blood. That the rider will dismount in obedience to entreaties is to me unthinkable. That the leech will let go of his own volition I cannot believe. I should sooner expect Huerta to resign, the victim of John Lind's eloquence.

Is Your Income $4800 a Year?

By H. J. BARRETT

CARROLL D. WRIGHT estimated the value of the average worker's annual product at $2400. The average annual wage in this country this year is $610. But that's only half the story.

The competitive system automatically creates a vast army of superfluous non-producers—traveling salesmen, lawyers, advertising men, collection agencies, insurance men, real estate and investment brokers, promoters, loan brokers and loan sharks and fifty-seven varieties of solicitors. Add to this the multitude engaged in pandering to the plutocracy's demand for luxuries. Now what effect will the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth have upon this scene of mad chaos, this veritable nightmare of misguided expenditure of effort, of futile exertion of energy?

Equality of income will promptly halt the activities of those now engaged in producing useless luxuries for the wealthy: a vast army in the aggregate. Furthermore, butlers, private chauffeurs, valets, French maids —all this superfluous assemblage will be set to some useful and more dignified task.

Abolition of competition will obviate the necessity for the employment of the millions of outside salesmen and solicitors and others whose wages are now tacked on to the price of every product we purchase. If a man needs a certain commodity he can go and buy it; it won't be forced upon him by some salesman who would far rather be engaged in creative labor than in spending his days wandering disconsolately from door to door seeking to pry a few dollars loose from some unwary victim.

We shall need only about a third of the clerks and inside salesmen we now employ. Thomas A. Edison has pointed out that competition creates three times as many retailers as we need.

Under co-operative ownership, nine-tenths of the civil lawyers will find a more useful field for their efforts. Litigation and "the law's delay" will be things of the past. As the majority of crimes are economic in motive, criminal lawyers will find their ranks much reduced.

Promoters, with their corps of stock salesmen, will vanish from the face of the globe. Collectors, insurance solicitors, loan brokers, loan sharks and the vast majority of real estate men will, like Othello, find their occupations gone.

What then will be the final net result? Merely that all these people will be gently but firmly induced to engage in some activity which will be of direct benefit to the community. **They will become producers.**

For one thing, we need more farmers and more intensive farming. The Department of Agriculture has just announced that for every hundred acres now under cultivation in this country, we have three hundred and seventy-five acres which should be tilled.

Plainly the cost of living will immediately drop to a half or a third its present rate, and the $2400 which Wright figured was the annual value of each worker's product will promptly double or triple in purchasing power. The final upshot will be that every one of us can afford to live on a scale now enjoyed by the man receiving from $4800 to $7200 per year.

Co-operative Farming

FARMING is no longer a hereditary occupation, but a scientific, systematic business, which requires the undivided attention of experts. This is clearly brought out by Charles W. Holman, who has written a valuable article for La Follette's, in which he does away with the milkmaid, barnyard and chanticleer effect, and leaves the reader with the idea that modern farming is a practical industry.

The causes and results he states as follows: Modern machinery must be purchased, best stock must be obtained, and best prices received, and this necessitates organization. There are communities in the United States where the farmers have formed in associations and selected association managers, each farmer dealing specifically in one product, thus becoming an expert and producing the best results. Through this association machinery is bought, gangs of laborers worked from one farm to another, products marketed to the best advantage of the association, thereby doing away with the present middleman, giving a better price to the farmer for his products, and more standardizing goods to the consumer, also at a cheaper price. Because of the better price to the farmer the needed stimulant to the farming classes is supplied.

Holman says that farmers are men, and as men must solve their problems, and the sometimes proposed remedy of subsidy is not what they need.

That the cry of the agricultural colleges "make two blades grow where one grew before," namely, greater production, is not the entire problem, but the distribution of the product, and today this is being solved by the American farmer through co-operation. G. H.

A Product

(Continued from Page 14)

The farmer raised his gun menacingly, and either by accident or design, pulled the trigger, inflicting a flesh wound. Mike returned the fire, but missed his target and wounded a stray dog passing on the road. To save himself, he fired again and the man fell.

Mike looked at the man, then passed over to the wounded dog. Kneeling in the dust he tried to stop the flow of blood.

"Poor little devil," he said, "I didn't mean to hurt you." A steady red stream, flowing from the wound on Mike's arm, mingled with the dog's life-blood.

The dog died licking Mike's hand.

The man at the house wriggled around on the porch, feebly cursing, then he died.

Two months later Mike died on the gallows.

Society was vindicated.

Steel trust experts are figuring how to increase profits $10,000,000 by increasing "efficiency" of employes. Why deviate from the old, tried and effective method of reducing their wages 10 cents a day? The steel workers' organizations have all been destroyed and they will make no protest. Why hesitate unless that 10 cents would cause starvation to reduce efficiency? Is that the answer?

We want Socialists to buy our Union-made products. Union conditions in industries means shorter hours, and shorter hours mean MORE SOCIALISTS.

Men's best quality cotton sox in black, tan or black with white feet, postpaid, 6 pair.....$1
Men's finest quality lisle thread sox in black, tan, ox blood, steel gray or pure white, postpaid, 6 pair $1.50
Ladies' finest quality cotton stockings, black, tan or black with white feet, postpaid, 6 pair.....$1
Ladies' extra heavy cotton stockings, 5 pair.....$1
Children's stockings, postpaid, 6 pair.....$1
Bell brand collars, postpaid, 1 dozen.....$1.50
Men's working shirts, blue chambray, heavy drill khaki, black sateen, each.....50c
Men's fancy negligee shirts, latest styles, each.....$1
Neckties, knitted, 50c values, each.....25c
Garters, for men, women and children, per pair.....25c

Write for catalogue of many other articles.

The company offers $25 in cash to the Socialist Branch or Local whose members have purchased the largest number of Bell Brand Collars—these are the only collars made under union conditions.

The stockholders of this company are all members of the working class.

Mutual Union Trading Co.

Postal Telegraph Building, 9 Board of Trade Court, Chicago, Illinois

You will confer a favor by saying you saw our adv. in the Western Comrade when ordering goods.

The first machine shop established at Rancho Llano del Rio was a small affair, where most of the work was done out of doors. Here repairs were made of agricultural implements and transportation machinery. The versatility of the colonists is a source of continual surprise.

THE WESTERN COMRADE

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Los Angeles, Cal.

924 Higgins Building, Los Angeles, Cal.

Subscription Price One Dollar a Year
In Clubs of Four Fifty Cents

Job Harriman, Managing Editor
Frank E. Wolfe, Editor

Vol. 2 July, 1914 No. 3

OH, CORK IT!

A glue factory, one of Southern California's boasted industries, stands near a certain suburban railway. Its charms are not for the nose, and therefore a woman always carried with her, when passing this point, a bottle of lavender salts. One morning an old rancher took a seat beside her. As the train neared the factory the woman opened the salts. Soon the whole car was filled with the horrible odor from the factory. The rancher endured it as long as he could, and then he shouted:

"Madam, would you mind puttin' the cork in that 'ere bottle!"

FRUGALITY REWARDED

A California editor who started about twenty years ago with only 55 cents has retired worth $100,000. His accumulation of wealth is owing to his efficiency, frugality, good habits, strict attention to business, and the fact that an uncle died and left him the sum of $99,999.

A HUMAN DUPLEX

Mrs. Newrich (who had advertised for a pianist)—So you are the music teacher that answered my advertisement?

Pianist—Yes, ma'am.

Mrs. Newrich—Well, sit down and play a couple of duets, so that I can see what you can do.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

During a building trade strike a negro was persuaded to act as a strikebreaker. He was instructed to carry some heavy planks to build a barricade. Each successive plank weighed heavier than a bad conscience, and Scipio finally approached the foreman:

"Look yeah, boss," he said, earnestly, "did I tell yo' what mah name was when I started in to wo'k?"

"Why, yes," answered the foreman, wonderingly. "You said it was Thompson."

"Dat's jes' what I did, boss. Dat's jes' what I did. But I was afraid dat yo' done gone made a mistake an' fink it was Samson!"

QUICK SOLUTION

Aileen of the fifth grade worried over her mathematics until Julia of the sixth came to the rescue.

"Let's see," said Julia. "'Compare 4 tenths, 40 one-hundredths and 400 one-thousandths.' Now, if you cut an apple into ten parts and then took four parts, and cut another apple into one-hundred parts and took forty parts, and then cut another apple into one thousand parts and took four hundred, what would you have?"

Aileen, brightening: "Apple sauce!"

OFF AT BUFFALO

The ship doctor of a liner notified the steward, an Irishman, that a man had died in stateroom 45. The usual instructions to have the body prepared for burial were given. Some hours later the doctor peeped into the room and found the body was still there. He called the Irishman's attention to the matter and the latter replied:

"I thought you said room 46. I wint to that room and noticed wan ow thim in a bunk. 'Are ye dead?' says I. 'No,' says he, 'but I'm pretty near dead.' So I buried him."

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A fine of $5000 has been inflicted on a trade union federation in New Zealand on account of the alleged insulting of a strikebreakers' leader. One shudders at the thought of what must have been the penalty if some rude striker had broken the strikebreaker's head with a dornick.

AN AID TO MEMORY

M. E. Johnson, who is, during daylight hours, a cunning capitalist by confession, and during nocturnal wandering a raving red by profession, is at all times a good story teller. To impress on an editor the possible penalty for failure to return a lent book, Johnson told this one.

A lawyer, visiting an insane asylum, met an intelligent inmate who told a cogent and convincing story of incarceration by mercenary, scheming relatives. The lawyer promised to obtain the man's release, and the two walked to a gate together, when suddenly the attorney received a terrific kick that landed him sprawling in the middle of the highway.

"What's that for?" asked the astonished lawyer, from his lowly seat in the street.

"That," said the nut, solemnly and impressively beating time with an extended index finger; "That is, LEST YOU FORGET!"

ALL IS MYSTERY

Two negros bought a piece of pork, and Sam, having no place to put his share, trusted it to Henry's keeping. They met the next night and Henry said: "A strange thing done happen at mah house las' night, Sam. All is myst'ry to me."

"What' dat?"

"Well, Sam," explained Henry, solemnly, "dis mawnin' I go down in de cellar for to git a piece of hawg for breakfast, an' I put my han' down in de brine an' feels roun', but dey ain't no po'k dar—all gone; so I tu'n up de bar'l, an', Sam, suah as preachin', de rats had done et a hole el'ar froo de bottom of dat bar'l an' dragged de meat all out."

Sam was petrified with astonishment for a moment and then said: "Why didn't de brine run outen de hole?"

"Well, yo' see, Sam," replied Henry, "dat's de myst'ry."

Telephone Home A-4533
HARRIMAN & RYCKMAN
Attorneys at Law
921 Higgins Building
Los Angeles, Cal.

Broadway 1592 F-1592
A. R. HOLSTON
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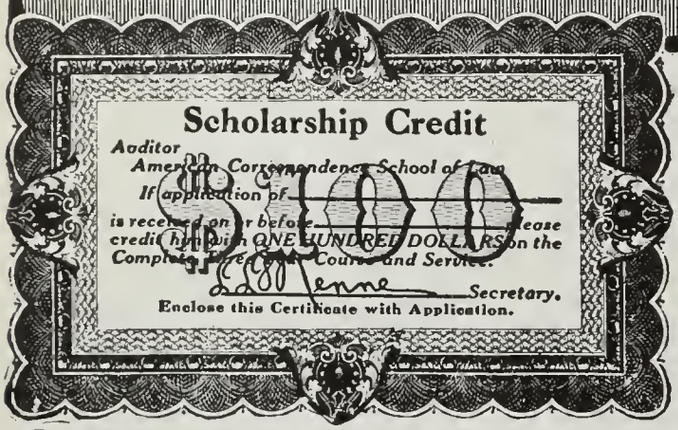

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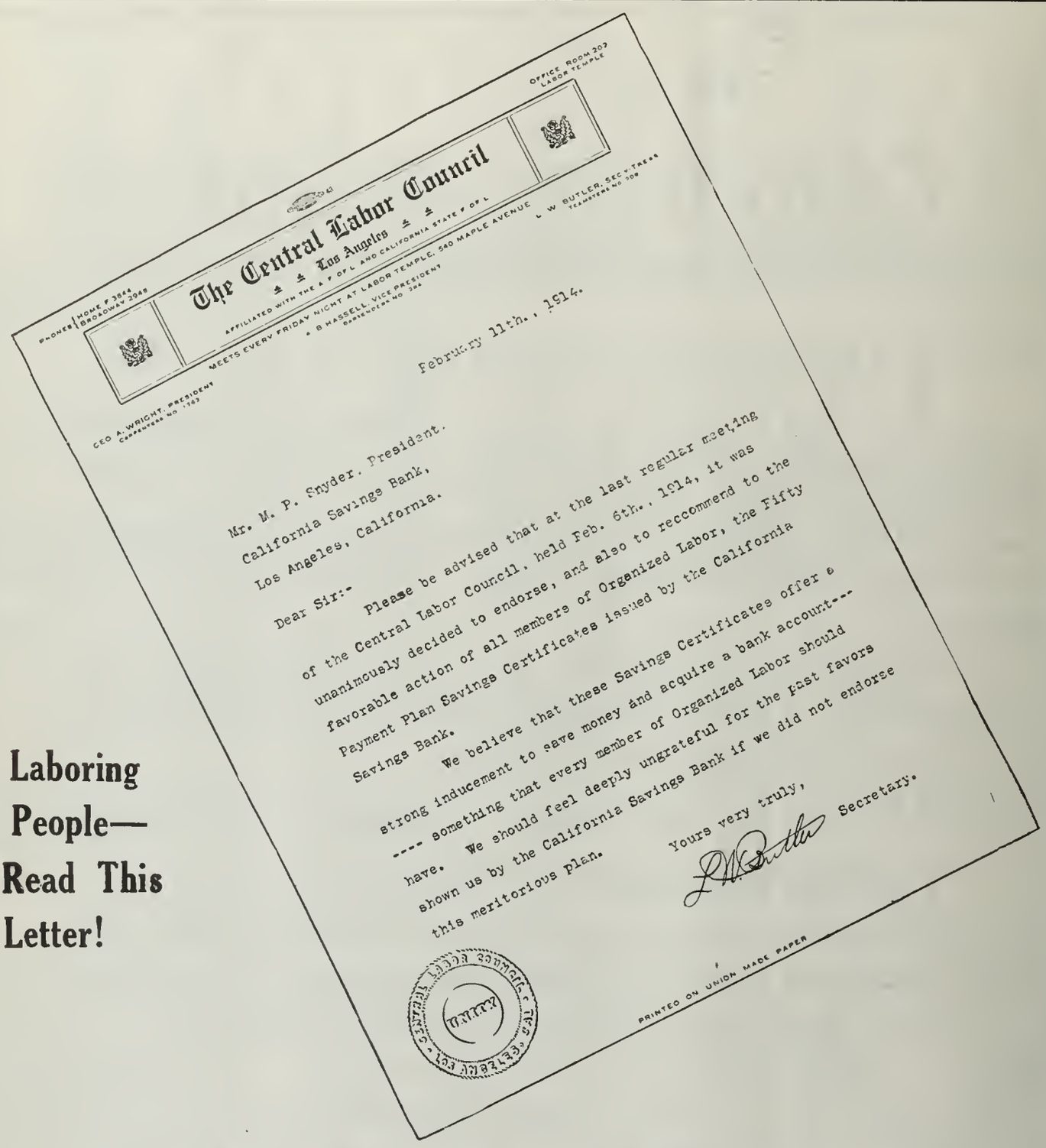

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February 11th., 1914.

Mr. M. P. Snyder, President.
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Dear Sir:-

Please be advised that at the last regular meeting of the Central Labor Council, held Feb. 6th., 1914, it was unanimously decided to endorse, and also to reccommend to the favorable action of all members of Organized Labor, the Fifty Payment Plan Savings Certificates issued by the California Savings Bank.

We believe that these Savings Certificates offer a strong inducement to save money and acquire a bank account--- ---- something that every member of Organized Labor should have. We should feel deeply ungrateful for the past favors shown us by the California Savings Bank if we did not endorse this meritorious plan.

Yours very truly,
L. W. Butler Secretary.

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